

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. (Previously Presented): A malt fermented beverage comprising:  
an alcohol-containing material partly made of wheat or barley and produced by fermentation, serving as a component A; and  
an alcohol-containing distillate obtained by distilling an alcohol-containing material at least partly made of wheat or barley, serving as a component B,  
wherein the malt fermented beverage is produced by mixing the component A and the component B, and wherein a ratio between an alcohol content from the alcohol-containing material of the component A and an alcohol content from the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is in a range of about 97.5:2.5 to about 90:10.

Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein at least malt is used as a starting material for the alcohol-containing material of the component A.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is made of at least starting materials comprising malt, hop and water, ~~and other starting materials as is necessary.~~

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 4, wherein the [[other]] starting materials further comprise materials [[are]] selected from the group

consisting of rice, corn, sorghum, white potato, starch, sugars, wheat or barley other than malt, a bittering agent, and a coloring agent.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is beer or a low-malt beer beverage.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 20% or higher.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 40% or higher.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is shochu (Japanese distilled liquor), whisky, vodka, or spirits.

Claim 10. (Canceled).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is “mugi shochu” (shochu distilled from wheat or barley).

Claims 12-13. (Canceled).

Claim 14. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim [[13]] 11, wherein the mugi shochu is mugi shochu that is obtained from starting materials including wheat or barley, malted wheat or malted barley, and water.

Claim 15. (Canceled).

Claim 16. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is wheat spirits.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 100%, and the distillate of alcohol-containing material of the component B is otsu-rui mugi shochu.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 40 to 60%, and the distillate of alcohol-containing material of the component B is wheat spirits.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein an alcohol content of the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is from 25 to 45%.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 or ~~claim 2~~, wherein an alcohol content of the malt fermented beverage is from 1 to 15%.

Claims 21-23. (Canceled).